

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 05684 110623Z

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ACTION SS-14

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9943

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 5684

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP

SUBJ: COMMUNICATION FROM PRINCE JUAN CARLOS TO PRESIDENT FORD

REF: STATE 174043

LETTER FROM FOREIGN MINISTER CORTINA DATED AUGUST 22 AND RECEIVED BY EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 9 REQUESTS THAT FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRINCE JUAN CARLOS DE BORBON BE TRANSMITTED TO PRESIDENT FORD. AT TIME LETTER WAS PREPARED PRINCE JUAN CARLOS WAS STILL SERVING IN CAPACITY OF ACTING CHIEF OF STATE. FOREIGN MINISTRY AIDE WHO PRESENTED LETTER APOLOGIZED FOR DELAY, ATTRIBUTING IT TO FOREIGN MINISTRY STAFF PROBLEMS RESULTING FROM PRESENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER IN SAN SEBASTIAN. BEGIN TEXT OF INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF LETTER:

MR. PRESIDENT:

I GREATLY VALUE YOUR MESSAGE OF AUGUST NINE ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR ACCESSION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES, IN WHICH YOU EXPRESSED YOUR VIEWS ON QUESTIONS OF GREAT INTEREST FOR OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

IN THIS RESPECT I NOTE WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION AND SATISFACTION THAT THE FOREIGN POLICY PROPOSED TO BE FOLLOWED IN THE FUTURE WILL BE A CONTINUATION OF THAT BEGUN BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND THAT, FOR THIS REASON, YOU HAVE DECIDED THAT DR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 05684 110623Z

KISSINGER SHOULD CONTINUE IN HIS POST AS SECRETARY OF STATE.

IT IS ESPECIALLY SATISFYING TO BE ASSURED OF THE WISH OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO CARRY ON FIRM AND CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH SPAIN IN THE FUTURE IN ACCORD WITH THE PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION RECENTLY SIGNED BY THE TWO COUNTRIES. IN THIS RESPECT I AM PLEASED TO POINT OUT THAT SPAIN, MINDFUL OF ITS CALLING WITH THE WEST, CONSIDERS THAT DECLARATION AS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO STRENGTHENING THE TRADITIONAL BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP THAT UNITE IT WITH THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS TO THE DEFENSE OF THE FREE WORLD AND THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE.

I ALSO WANT TO INFORM YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT REMAINS PREPARED AS IT HAS BEFORE, TO WORK AND COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TIES OF FRIENDSHIP THAT EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

I REQUEST YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, TO ACCEPT ONCE AGAIN THE EXPRESSION OF MY MOST SINCERE REGARD.

SINCERELY,
(SIGNED)

JUAN CARLOS, PRINCE OF SPAIN
ACTING CHIEF OF STATE

END TEXT OF INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF LETTER.
RIVERO

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